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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/804,699

03/19/2004

Tim J. Bales

DB001094-000

9148

7590

12/27/2005

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EXAMINER

CHANG, DANIEL D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2819

DATE MAILED: 12/27/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AK

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/804,699

Applicant(s)

BALES, TIM J.

Examiner

Daniel D. Chang

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 October 2005.
 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-65 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) 9-19, 21-25, 27-31, 35, 36 and 39-65 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 20, 26, 32-34, 37 and 38 is/are rejected.
 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4/29/04.
 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election of Species of Fig. 4 (claims 1-8, 20, 26, 32-34, and 37-38) is acknowledged.

Claim Objections

Claims 7, 26, and 32 are objected to because of the following informalities: it is recommended that the recitation, "vice versa" at the last line of the claim be spelled out in order to clearly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-8, 20, 26, 32-34, and 37-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Biber et al. (US 5,134,311, hereinafter, "Biber").

Regarding claim 1, Biber discloses a method of correcting impedance curvature in a MOS driver circuit (circuit in Fig. 3), said method comprising:

using a first MOS transistor (48, 52, 56) and second MOS transistor (46, 50, 54) as part of said MOS driver circuit; and

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operating said first MOS transistor and said second MOS transistor so as to compensate for changes in output impedance of said first MOS transistor through corresponding changes in output impedance of said second MOS transistor (see abstract; col. 4, lines 49+).

Regarding claim 2, Biber discloses using a signal adder circuit (36, since it turns on the transistors in output stage 32 to add more signals to control impedance of the output signal) as part of said MOS driver circuit, wherein said operating comprises:

maintaining a controlled voltage (voltage at its gate) at a first input terminal of said first MOS transistor (gate of 48, 52, 56), and

using said signal adder circuit to provide a differential voltage (bit 1-3, 4-6 in Fig. 8A and 8B) at a second input terminal of said second MOS transistor (gate of 46, 50, 54).

Regarding claim 3, Biber discloses that said first and said second input terminals are respective gate terminals of said first and said second MOS transistors (see 32 in Figs. 3, 6).

Regarding claim 4, Biber discloses using an amplifier (34 in Figs. 3, 7) to provide an input signal to said signal adder circuit (/COMP in Fig. 8A, 8B).

Regarding claim 5, Biber discloses using said amplifier includes using an output of said amplifier (COMP in Fig. 7) to supply said input signal to said signal adder circuit (/COMP in Fig. 8A, 8B).

Regarding claim 6, Biber discloses that said amplifier is a differential amplifier (see 34 in Fig. 7).

Regarding claim 7, Biber discloses a method of correcting impedance curvature in a MOS driver circuit (circuit in Fig. 3), said method comprising:

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using a first MOS transistor (48, 52, 56) and second MOS transistor (46, 50, 54) as part of said MOS driver circuit; and

operating said first MOS transistor and said second MOS transistor so as to increase output impedance of said second MOS transistor when output impedance of said first MOS transistor decreases, and vice versa (see abstract; col. 4, lines 49+).

Claims 8, 20, 26, 32-34, 37, and 38 are essentially the same in scope as claims 1-7 and are rejected similarly.

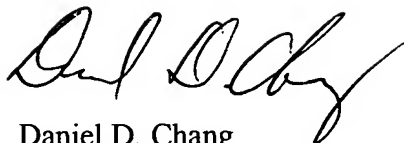
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel D. Chang whose telephone number is (571) 272-1801. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rexford Barnie can be reached on (571) 272-7492. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan D. Chang". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dan" and last name "Chang" clearly distinguishable.

Daniel D. Chang
Primary Examiner
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DANIEL CHANG
PRIMARY EXAMINER